Central Assistance for power reforms for States

*56. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the States are set to sign agreements with the Union Government listing out time-bound power reforms for seeking Central assistance;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government plans to spend Rs. 40,000 crore in the next five years for assisting States to reform their power sector utilities;

(c) whether the funds will be released after verifying the achievements made by the States as per the Memorandum of Agreement; and

(d) if, so, how many States have plans to improve the power in their States?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, sir.

(c) As per the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA), beneficiary States are required to agree to systematically improve their financial viability by benchmarking their performance and periodically monitoring the same. The existing benchmarks shall be compared with the expected level to be achieved within the agreed time frame. These benchmarks, *inter alia*, apply to State Electricity Boards/Utility level as well as Circle levels covering the following parameters.

— Input energy to circle Vs metered energy sale to consumers (energy billed on flat rate/assessed basis is not to be included).

— Transmission and Distribution losses in Million Units (MU) (flat sales and unmetered sales are not to be included).

— Gap between Average Revenue Realisation and Average Cost of Supply (ARR & ACS) per unit of energy (ARR—ACS)—Average Revenue Realisation—ARR (Ratio of Gross Revenue sales in crores of Rupees and Net Energy input in MU) for entire State, ACS [Ratio of Cost of supply (including generation cost, purchase and overhead cost) in crores of Rupees and Net Energy input in MU for entire State].

— Productivity— Ratio of Metered energy sale to consumers and total Manpower strength in the circle (executives plus supervisors plus supported staff).

— Billing cycle time (period).

— Feeder outages (Numbers).

— Failure rate of Distribution Transformers (Percentages).

— Consumer complaints (Numbers).

— Complaint disposal time (Period).

— High Tension/Low Tension ratio.

— Average Load Factor on Distribution Transformers.

— Average Power Factor.

In the first instance 25% of the eligible amount was released with the condition that balance 75% would be released after signing of the MoA and prioritization of the schemes. Further releases would be dependent upon the State Electricity Boards/Utilities' adherence to the parameters at per the MoA.

(d) MoA has already been signed with Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Mizoram. Other Sates like Assam and the North-Eastern States (except Mizoram), West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana have agreed to sign the MoA.

Supply of Sub-Standard MIG-21 Spares by HAL

*57. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has supplied sub-standard and uncertified spares to Indian Air Force resulting in a spate of MIG-21 crashes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that HAL is re-exporting quality spares imported from Russia to Algeria and Vietnam,

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken to acquire quality spares by IAF to avoid further MIG crashes?